

# ANDAMAN DAILY

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**NICOBAR TIMES**

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***26th of March  
2025***



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# Homoeopathy Health Camp to be Held at Shaheed Dweep on March 28



**VIKAS  
KUMAR**

**[READ STORY ON WEBSITE](#)**

**As part of the month-long celebrations marking World Homoeopathy Day 2025, the Directorate of Health Services and the A&N State AYUSH Society will organize a Homoeopathy Health Camp for the general public of Shaheed Dweep on March 28, 2025. The event commemorates the 270th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, the German physician who discovered the Principles of Homoeopathy and developed it as a "Science of Gentle Healing."**

**The camp will be conducted by a team of doctors and staff from AYUSH and is scheduled to take place at PHC Shaheed Dweep from 9:30 AM onwards.**

**Residents of Shaheed Dweep are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.**

**For further information or queries, interested individuals may contact Dr. Supria Arangi, Medical Officer (Homoeo), AYUSH Hospital at 9477777306. (Story Based on PR)**



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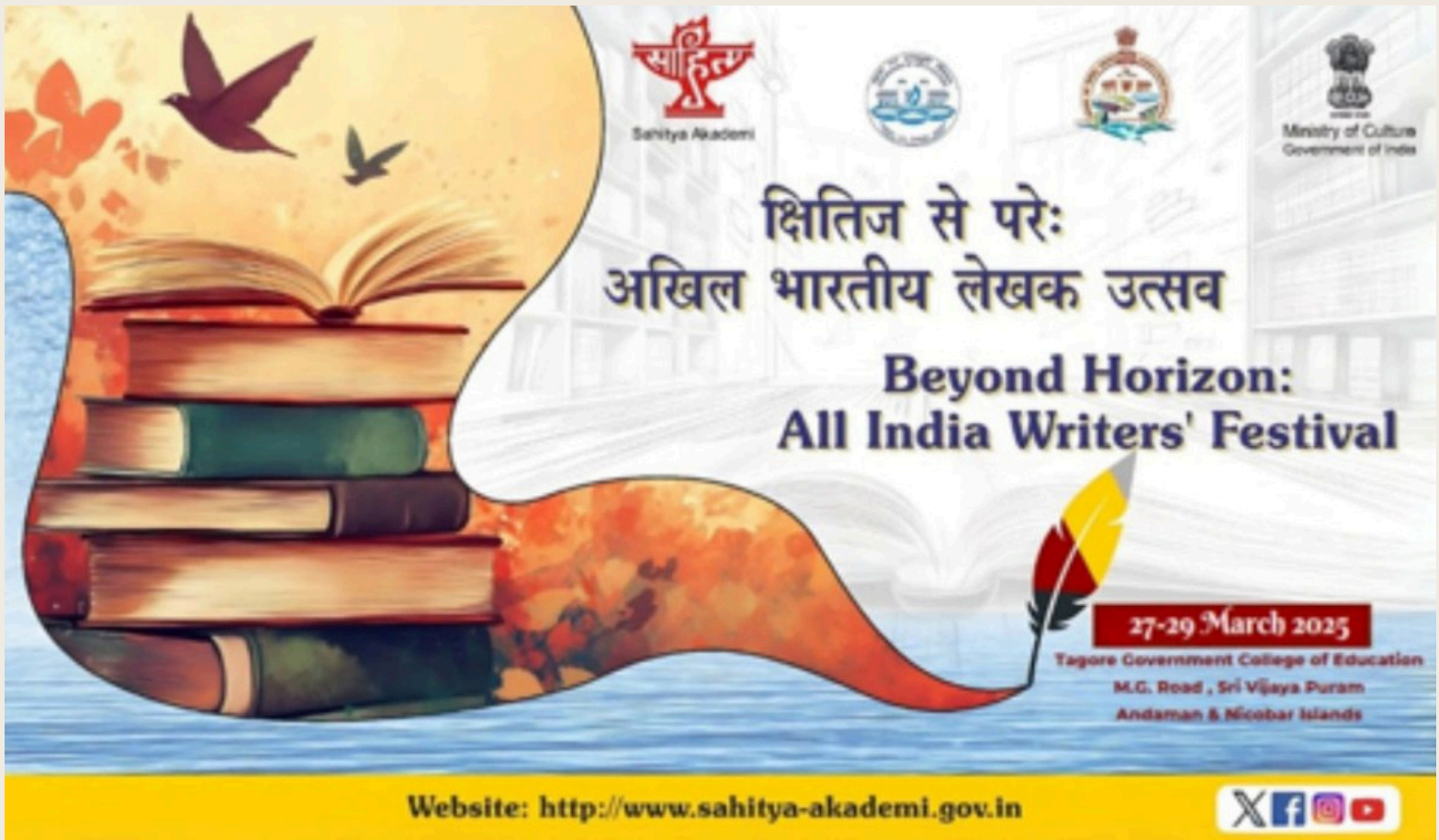
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# A&N Administration to Host 'Beyond Horizon – All India Writers' Festival' from March 27-29, 2025



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X f i y t



**ROHIT  
KUMAR**

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**In a bid to celebrate the richness of Indian literature and foster cultural and intellectual exchange, the Department of Art & Culture, Andaman & Nicobar Administration, in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, is set to organize the first-ever 'Beyond Horizon – All India Writers' Festival.' The event will take place from March 27 to 29, 2025, at the Auditorium of Tagore Government College of Education (TGCE), Middle Point.**

**Admiral DK Joshi, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, NM, VSM (Retd.), Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Vice Chairman of the Islands Development Agency, will grace the inaugural ceremony as the Chief Guest. The inauguration is scheduled for 10:15 am on March 27, 2025, at the TGCE Auditorium.**

**The festival will witness participation from renowned authors and poets representing various Indian languages. Additionally, several local authors, poets, and scholars will contribute to the event, creating an enriching platform for literary dialogue. The festival aims to offer an engaging experience for literature enthusiasts by facilitating interactive sessions that promote creativity and intellectual growth.**

As part of the festival, the Official Language Department of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration will host a 'Hasya Kavi Sammelan' at Dr. BR Ambedkar Auditorium, Sri Vijaya Puram, on March 28, 2025, at 6:30 pm. The event promises to add a touch of humour and wit to the literary celebration.

The literature festival presents a unique opportunity for literary enthusiasts, students, and the public to immerse themselves in the vibrant world of literature and explore diverse perspectives. All are invited to attend both the 'Beyond Horizon – All India Writers' Festival' and the 'Hasya Kavi Sammelan.'

The festival is expected to be a landmark event, bringing together literary minds from across the country and offering an unforgettable experience for participants and attendees alike. (Story Based on PR)



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# World TB Day Observed in Car Nicobar, Emphasizing Community Action and Commitment



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

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**The World Tuberculosis (TB) Day programme was observed at BJR Hospital, Car Nicobar, with a renewed commitment to eliminate tuberculosis through community participation and sustained efforts. The event, held in the hospital's Conference Hall, brought together key stakeholders, including Mr. Amit Kale, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Nicobar District, and Mr. Lioneld Nicomed, Chief Captain of the Tribal Council, alongside Tribal Council members, Heads of Departments, medical staff, and community members.**

**This year's theme, "Yes! We Can End TB – Commit, Invest, Deliver," underscored the importance of united action in eliminating the preventable and treatable disease. The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of a lamp by Mr. Kale and other dignitaries, symbolizing hope and resilience in the fight against TB.**

**In his address, Mr. Kale commended the relentless efforts of the District Tuberculosis Officer (DTO), National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) staff, and ground-level workers for their critical role in TB case detection and management. As a Nikshay Mitra himself, Mr. Kale encouraged**

**attendees to volunteer as Nikshay Mitras to strengthen community-based support for TB patients.**

**Dr. Silvester Titus, Medical Officer, welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of continued awareness and collaborative action to eradicate TB. Acknowledging the contributions of frontline workers and volunteers, Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to three ASHAs, winners of an essay writing competition, and 25 Nikshay Mitras for their dedication to TB elimination efforts.**

**Dr. Anwar Moosa, District TB Officer for Nicobar, provided insights into the district's progress through a detailed PowerPoint presentation, showcasing the achievements and ongoing initiatives aimed at combating TB.**

**Dr. Johnson Sameer, Medical Superintendent (i/c), BJR Hospital, reiterated the Government's commitment to eliminating TB by 2025 and praised the community's growing participation in this mission. He urged all participants to actively engage in the Nikshay Mitra initiative and contribute to sustaining the momentum in the fight against TB.**

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Ruth Christopher, Dental Surgeon at BJR Hospital, who expressed gratitude to the health workers, volunteers, and Government officials for their unwavering efforts in combating TB in the region.

With collective determination and community involvement, Car Nicobar continues to move closer to achieving its goal of a TB-free future. (Story Based on PR)



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# Chief Secretary Inaugurates Advanced Cardio Equipment at Netaji Stadium Sports Complex



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

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**The Chief Secretary of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, Dr. Chandra Bhushan Kumar, IAS, inaugurated state-of-the-art cardio equipment at the Fitness-cum-Conditioning Hall, Netaji Stadium Sports Complex, on March 25, 2025. The upgraded facility is aimed at enhancing the fitness experience for both members and non-members, offering advanced equipment that promotes improved endurance, strength, and overall health.**

**The Fitness-cum-Conditioning Hall has been structured to accommodate different groups at various times of the day. The hall will be open for gentlemen from 5:00 AM to 7:00 AM and from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Sessions for families and ladies will be available from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM, while trainees can utilize the facility between 3:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Additionally, the sauna and steam bath services will be available on Wednesdays and Saturdays, adding to the range of facilities offered at the complex.**

**The introduction of these upgraded facilities highlights the Administration's commitment to promoting fitness and healthy living in the Islands. By providing access to high-quality equipment and**

well-structured training schedules, the initiative aims to encourage the community to adopt a more active and healthy lifestyle. (Story Based on PR)

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# Sahitya Mahotsav-2025: Hasya Kavi Sammelan to Bring Laughter on March 28



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

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**The Department of Art and Culture, A&N Administration, is set to host the much-anticipated Sahitya Mahotsav-2025 from March 27 to March 29, 2025. As part of the festival, a Hasya Kavi Sammelan (Humorous Poetry Session) will be organized by the Official Language Department, A&N Administration, on March 28 at 6:30 PM at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Auditorium, Sri Vijaya Puram Municipal Council.**

**The event will feature renowned Hasya poets from the mainland, including Mr. Rajesh ‘Chetan,’ Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Mr. Sudeep ‘Bhola,’ Ms. Monika ‘Dehalvi,’ and Mr. Upendra Pandey. Known for their wit and humour, these poets are expected to entertain the audience with their lively and engaging compositions.**

**Residents and poetry enthusiasts have been invited to attend the event and enjoy an evening filled with laughter and satire. The Sahitya Mahotsav-2025 promises to be a celebration of literature and culture, bringing together celebrated voices and creative expressions. (Story Based on PR)**



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# Awareness Camp on Elderline 14567 and Senior Citizens' Rights Held at Tushnabad



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

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**An awareness camp on Elderline 14567 and the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act, 2007 was organized at Tushnabad Gram Panchayat in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Sri Vijaya Puram, South Andaman. The camp aimed to empower senior citizens by informing them about available support services and their legal rights.**

**Ms. Sushma Pandey, Project Manager (NHSC), welcomed the gathering and provided an overview of the Elderline Helpline's operations. She highlighted that senior citizens can easily seek assistance by calling 14567 or visiting the Helpline Office located at the WCD Control Room, VIP Road. The helpline offers support for information, guidance, and emotional assistance, with NHSC staff available from 8 am to 8 pm every day.**

**Mr. Anupam Sircar, Ld. Judicial Magistrate First Class, 2nd Court, Sri Vijaya Puram, who was the chief guest, addressed the gathering and emphasized the importance of safeguarding the legal rights of senior citizens under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act, 2007. He elaborated on how Elderline 14567 plays a crucial role in providing legal**

assistance and resolving issues concerning senior citizens' welfare. He also highlighted the services offered by DLSA in ensuring justice for the elderly.

Mr. Anand Amrit Raj, Pradhan of Gram Panchayat, Tushnabad, spoke about the benefits of the Elderline Helpline and encouraged senior citizens to utilize the service to address any difficulties they may face in their daily lives.

Ms. Pratima Rai, Mukhya Sevika, Directorate of Social Welfare, proposed the vote of thanks. She reiterated that the Elderline 14567 initiative, operating under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, seeks to create a society where senior citizens feel heard, supported, and empowered.

The event witnessed active participation from a large number of senior citizens, local leaders, and members of the public. An interactive session was also held, where the elderly were encouraged to stay connected with the helpline for continued assistance and support.



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# Sterilization Camp

## Benefits 154 Women in Little Andaman



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

**READ STORY ON WEBSITE**

**The Directorate of Health Services (DHS), in collaboration with the Union Territory Health Mission (UTHM) and ANIIMS, successfully conducted a fixed-day sterilisation camp at PHC Hutbay, Little Andaman, from March 17 to March 22, 2025. During the six-day camp, a record 154 women from Hutbay, R.K. Pur, and nearby villages availed of laparoscopic sterilisation services, a recognised permanent method of family planning.**

**The sterilisation team was led by Professor (Dr.) M.K. Saha, Medical Superintendent of GB Pant Hospital, ANIIMS, and Dr. R. Narayanan, Senior Anaesthetist, with strong support from the staff of GB Pant Hospital, Sri Vijaya Puram. Their dedication and expertise enabled the completion of 154 procedures in a remarkably short period.**

**Dr. Rajni Tiwari, Medical Officer In-charge of PHC Hutbay, and her team played a crucial role by providing essential background support and assistance to the operating team, ensuring the smooth execution of the procedures.**

**The Director of Health Services also acknowledged the valuable support of the Directorate of Shipping Services for providing the vessel M.V.**

Shompen, which facilitated the transportation of the sterilization team and OT equipment, contributing significantly to the success of the camp.



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# Earthquake and Fire Mock Drill Conducted at Directorate of Tribal Welfare to Assess Disaster Preparedness



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**In line with the Chief Secretary's directive for quarterly mock drills across all Departments, the Directorate of Disaster Management, A&N Administration, conducted an Earthquake and Fire Mock Drill on March 24, 2025, at the Directorate of Tribal Welfare, A&N Administration, Sri Vijaya Puram. The exercise aimed to evaluate the disaster preparedness and response capabilities of departmental staff and emergency response teams.**

**The mock drill began with a Table Top Discussion where officials finalized the drill scenario and assigned roles and responsibilities to department personnel and emergency responders. The drill was initiated at 11:10 am, during which staff followed the 'Duck, Cover & Hold' technique for earthquake safety before evacuating to designated safe zones. Fire alarms were triggered, and communication was swiftly established with the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC) (1070), District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC) (S/A) (1077), Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) (112), and other relevant resource departments.**

**Search and rescue teams conducted operations to**

locate missing individuals, while first aid was provided to the injured. The Fire Tender and ambulance reached the site promptly, ensuring timely response. The exercise concluded with an 'All Clear' signal from the Incident Commander, indicating that the situation was under control.

A debriefing session followed at 11:40 am, where officials from the Directorate of Disaster Management, District Administration, A&N Police, Fire, and Health Departments reviewed the execution of the drill. They lauded the successful coordination and emphasized the importance of regular training to enhance disaster preparedness among staff.

A press release from the Directorate of Disaster Management highlighted that such exercises play a crucial role in improving response efficiency and minimizing risks during real emergencies.



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# CPI (M) Criticizes BJP Government in Public Meetings at Diglipur and Kalighat



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**The Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI (M)] North Andaman Area Committee organized two public meetings in Diglipur and Kalighat, where the party strongly criticized the BJP-led central government and the local administration for the hardships faced by islanders.**

**The first meeting was held on March 22, 2025, at Talbagan, Diglipur, and witnessed the participation of hundreds of villagers. The meeting was presided over by Sunil Dutta, while D. Ayyappan, State Secretary of CPI (M), led the charge against the central government. He accused the Modi government of failing to generate employment opportunities for the local youth and alleged that farmers in North Andaman's rural areas were being harassed with eviction notices.**

**Ayyappan highlighted that these farmers have occupied government land 50-60 years ago, with three generations living and cultivating the land. He alleged that following the 2024 general elections, eviction notices have been served to these farmers, asking them to vacate the land. CPI (M) demanded that the government allot the land to the farmers, recognising their long-standing occupation.**

Prominent CPI (M) leaders, including Dilip Karmakar and Banomali Sarkar, State Organising Committee Members, AVA Samad, Secretary of the North Andaman Area Committee, and Paschimsagar Branch Committee Members Nishikant Roy and Nityananda Mistry, were also present at the meeting.

The second meeting took place on March 23, 2025, at Kalighat Bazar. Presided over by Madhan Sarkar, Area Committee Member and Panchayat Member of Kalighat Panchayat, the meeting echoed similar concerns. Ayyappan once again criticized the BJP government, reiterating its failure to address the grievances of the islanders. Dilip Karmakar, AVA Samad, and Bahuram Naik, Kalighat Branch Committee Member, also addressed the gathering.

The CPI (M) vowed to continue its fight against the eviction of farmers and pressed for the immediate allotment of land to those who have been cultivating it for generations. (Story Based on PR)



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# SFI Forms State Organising Committee in Andaman & Nicobar, Opposes Deemed University



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

**[READ STORY ON WEBSITE](#)**



**A meeting of students from various educational institutions across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands was held at Sri Vijaya Puram on March 25, 2025. The gathering addressed several issues faced by students in the islands and decided to expand the activities of the Students Federation of India (SFI) across all educational institutions in the region.**

**The meeting concluded with the formation of a 15-member Andaman & Nicobar State Organising Committee of SFI, with Abdul Warish appointed as the Convener. The newly constituted committee aims to strengthen the presence of SFI in the islands and advocate for student welfare.**

**A key resolution adopted during the meeting was to oppose the Government of India's decision to disaffiliate all colleges in the islands from Pondicherry Central University and affiliate them with the newly established Deemed University. The resolution highlighted concerns that the move could lead to an increase in student fees, among other challenges. The SFI has vowed to resist what it termed as an "anti-student" decision and pledged to mobilize support against the transition to the Deemed University system.**

Prominent speakers at the meeting included D. Ayyappan, Chairman of the JNRM Alumni Association, Aswini P, Executive Committee Member of the Pondicherry University Students Council from Brookshabad Campus, and Abdul Warish.

The Students Federation of India reiterated its commitment to establishing a progressive, democratic, and egalitarian system that ensures social justice and intellectual self-reliance. The organization continues to champion the cause of a universal and free public education system that guarantees education for all, advocating for India's advancement towards a socialist society promoting equality and dignity.

The SFI, which upholds the slogan "Independence, Democracy, and Socialism," reaffirmed its resolve to safeguard the interests of students in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



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# Day & Night Football and Volleyball Tournament to Begin from April 5 at Netaji Stadium



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

**READ STORY ON WEBSITE**


**The Department of Sports and Youth Affairs is set to organize a Day & Night Football and Volleyball Tournament from April 5, 2025, at Netaji Stadium, Sri Vijaya Puram. Both tournaments will follow a League-cum-Knockout format and will be open to all categories, allowing participation from youth, government and private organizations, clubs, and local teams. The primary objective of these tournaments is to promote a culture of sports and physical fitness among the youth and residents of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**

**Interested teams can register their entries on or before April 3, 2025, on a first-come, first-serve basis. Registrations for the Island Football League (IFL), which is open to men, will be conducted by Mr. M. Seyed Meeran, Football Coach, and matches will be held at the JNRM Football Ground.**

**Teams can contact him at 7679973351 for further details. Similarly, for the Island Volleyball League (IVL), which is open to both men and women, registrations will be handled by Mr. Abdul Khalid, Volleyball Coach, and matches will be played at the Volleyball Court of Netaji Stadium. He can be contacted at 9434290640 for registration and other queries.**

Both tournaments will commence on April 5, 2025, and the winners and runners-up will be felicitated with attractive cash prizes. The Department of Sports and Youth Affairs hopes that this initiative will not only provide a platform for local talent to showcase their skills but also foster a greater enthusiasm for sports in the islands. (Story Based on PR)

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# Farmers Urged to Contact Electricity Department for Solar Pump Installation Under PM-KUSUM Scheme



**TARUN  
KARTHICK**

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**The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has sanctioned 34 stand-alone solar pumps and 436 individual grid-connected solar pumps under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for the financial year 2024-25. The scheme, launched in March 2019, aims to reduce diesel dependency in the agricultural sector and boost farmers' income by promoting solar energy adoption.**

**The scheme will be implemented by the Electricity Department of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration, focusing on two key components:**

### **Component B: Stand-alone Solar Pumps:**

**Under this component, farmers in off-grid areas will receive assistance to install stand-alone solar agricultural pumps or replace existing diesel pumps. Priority will be given to small and marginal farmers, especially those using micro-irrigation systems.**

**– Pump Capacity: Solar PV capacity in kW will be capped according to the pump capacity in HP, as per MNRE guidelines. For instance, a 3 HP pump**

**can have a solar capacity of up to 3 kW.**

**– Financial Assistance: Farmers will receive 50% of the benchmark or tender cost (whichever is lower) as Central Financial Assistance (CFA), with 20% of the cost borne by the farmer through self-financing or bank loans. Additionally, a 30% subsidy from the Union Territory (UT) Administration is expected to be notified, subject to approval.**

### **Component C: Individual Pump Solarisation (IPS):**

**This component focuses on solarisation of grid-connected agricultural pumps to ensure reliable day-time solar power for farmers. The initiative aims to incentivize farmers to conserve water by enabling them to sell surplus solar power to the Electricity Department.**

**– Solar Capacity: Farmers can install solar PV systems with a capacity up to twice that of their pump capacity in kW. This will allow them to meet their irrigation needs while earning additional income from surplus solar power.**

**– Financial Assistance: Similar to Component B,**



**50% of the benchmark or tender cost will be provided as CFA. Farmers will contribute 20% of the cost, with the option of self-financing or availing a bank loan. Additionally, a 30% subsidy from the Union Territory (UT) Administration is expected to be notified, subject to approval.**

## **How to Apply:**

**Interested farmers, Water User Associations, and UT-based irrigation systems can contact the Office of the Executive Engineer (NRSE), Electricity Department, Opp. Marine Hall, Mohanpura, Sri Vijaya Puram, A&N Islands – 744101 for further details. The office can be reached at Ph: 03192-230276 during working hours.**

**The PM-KUSUM scheme is expected to significantly contribute to the adoption of renewable energy in the islands, reducing carbon emissions and ensuring a sustainable future for the agricultural sector. (Story Based on PR)**



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